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September 30, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/051,670 ✓
Filed: September 8, 1998
Title: Novel DNA and Process for Preparing Protein Using the DNA
Applicants: NAKAGAWA *et al.*
Atty. Docket: 16991.009

Sir:

**Applicants' Inquiry Concerning Suspension of Action by
the Examiner Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.103 and MPEP 709**

Pursuant to an official communication mailed March 26, 2002 regarding suspension of prosecution of the above-referenced application, Applicants respectfully request that a status update of this application be provided to the undersigned as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Edwards

Andrew S. Brenc (Reg. Attorney No. 45,534)
Danielle M. Edwards (Reg. Agent No. 51,645)